

# State of South Carolina

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## Workers' Compensation Commission

December 16, 2009

### **Commission votes to remove IME's from Medical Services Provider Manual**

Independent Medical Evaluations conducted on or after December 15<sup>th</sup> will not be subject to a maximum allowable payment. However, IME costs will continue to be reviewed in each case and listed on the Form 61A for approval by the Commission. The Medical Services Provider Manual previously determined the maximum allowable payment a physician could receive for performing an Independent Medical Evaluation was \$600.

The American Medical Association defines an Independent Medical Examination, CPT Code 99456, as a work related or medical disability examination by anyone other than the treating physician. The examination is defined to include completion of a medical history commensurate with the patient's condition; formulation of a diagnosis, assessment of capabilities and stability, and calculation of impairment; development of a future medical treatment plan; and completion of necessary documentation.

Inquiries regarding IME's should be directed to Executive Assistant Jennifer Neese at [Jneese@wcc.sc.gov](mailto:Jneese@wcc.sc.gov) or 803-737-5713.

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